

REMARKS

This Application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed February 22, 2005. All pending claims 1-36 are pending in this application. Claims 1-3, 5-11, 13, 15-20, 22, 24-28, 30, and 32-36 are rejected in the Office Action. Claims 4, 12, 14, 21, 23, 29, and 31 are objected to. Claims 1, 11, 20, 28, and 36 have been amended. New Claims 37, 38, and 39 have been added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending Claims 1-39.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that Claims 4, 12, 14, 21, 23, 29, and 31 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim. Applicant has rewritten Claims 4, 12, 23, and 29 as independent Claims 1, 11, 20, and 28 and rewritten Claims 14, 21, and 31 as new Claims 37, 38, and 39. Favorable action is requested.

In the Specification:

The Examiner objects to the specification as containing various informalities. Applicant has amended the specification as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, reconsideration and favorable action are requested.

Section 103 Rejections

Claims 1-3, 8-11, 13, 18-20, 22, 28, and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,570,871 issued to Schneider ("*Schneider*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,359,877 issued to Rathonyi et al., ("*Rathonyi*"). Claims 5-7, 15-17, 24-27, and 32-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Schneider* in view of *Rathonyi*, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,348,880 issued to Xu ("*Xu*").

Applicant's rewriting of Claims 4, 12, 14, 21, 23, 29, and 31 in independent form renders moot these rejections, except for the objection of Claim 36. With respect to Claim 36, Applicant has amended Claim 36 to include language analogous to original Claim 23 (now allowable Claim 20), which was indicated to be allowable. Thus, Claim 36 is also allowable. Favorable action is requested.

CONCLUSION

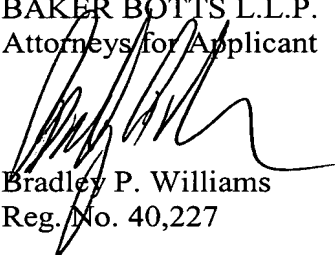
Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for immediate allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other apparent reasons, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of all pending claims.

If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, please feel free to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicant.

A check in the amount of \$240.00 is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to the Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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